

## **CLAIMS**

1. For use with a printing apparatus which deposits element color recording materials in dot matrices on recording media to produce printed output of color images containing a plurality of element colors according to print data, a print data adjusting system arranged for adjusting said print data to compensate for color variation due to inconsistency in quantity of recording materials used, characterized in that a predetermined degree of adjustment, for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of each single color used due to an instrumental error of the printing apparatus, is decreased according to a mixed-color order of a reference color, which is determined to be treated as a factor in color reproduction, at the time of color mixing to accomplish adjustment of said print data.

2. For use with a printing apparatus which deposits element color recording materials in dot matrices on recording media to produce printed output of color images containing a plurality of element colors according to print data, a print data adjusting system arranged for adjusting said print data to compensate for color variation due to inconsistency in quantity of recording materials used, comprising:

a degree-of-adjustment memory unit for storing a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity or recording material used for each element color;

a degree-of-adjustment regulating unit for judging a mixed-color order of a reference color, which is determined to be treated as a factor in color reproduction, and regulating the degree of adjustment to decrease to a lower level according to judged mixed-color; and

a first adjustment unit for adjusting said print data according to the degree of adjustment thus regulated.

3. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said degree-of-adjustment regulating unit is arranged to judge variation in compositional quantity of each element color and recognize that a mixed-color order has the highest value in case of uniform distribution.

4. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said degree-of-adjustment regulating unit is arranged to judge variation in compositional quantity of each element color in accordance with a ratio of the lowest level of compositional quantity of each element color to an average value of compositional quantities of respective element colors.

5. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said degree-of-adjustment regulating unit is arranged to judge saturation and recognize that a mixed-color order is high if saturation is low.

6. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said degree-of-adjustment regulating unit is arranged to determine a degree of regulation in advance for each degree of adjustment in accordance with combinations of respective element colors.

7. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 2, characterized by:

second adjustment unit for adjusting said print data in accordance with a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of recording material used for each element color; and

degree-of-adjustment reducing unit for decreasing the degree of adjustment effected by the second adjustment unit to a level lower than in single-color printing at the time of color mixing through combinations of element colors.

8. A print data adjusting system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said degree-of-adjustment reducing unit is arranged to

decrease each degree of adjustment as the number of mixed colors increases.

9. For use with a printing apparatus which deposits element color recording materials in dot matrices on recording media to produce printed output of color images containing a plurality of element colors according to print data, a method of adjusting said print data, characterized in that a predetermined degree of adjustment, for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of each single color used due to an instrumental error of the printing apparatus, is decreased according to a mixed-color order of a reference color, at the time of color mixing to accomplish adjustment of said print data.

10. For use with a printing apparatus which deposits element color recording materials in dot matrices on recording media to produce printed output of color images containing a plurality of element colors according to print data, a method of adjusting the print data, wherein a predetermined degree of adjustment, for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of each single color used, is decreased at the time of color mixing to accomplish adjustment of said print data; wherein a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of recording material used for each element color is stored, a mixed-color order for a reference color, which is determined to be treated as a factor in color reproduction, is judged,

the degree of adjustment is regulated to decrease to a lower level according to the judged mixed-color order and wherein said print data is adjusted in accordance with the degree of adjustment thus regulated.

11. A method of adjusting print data as claimed in claim 9, wherein a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of recording material used for each element color is set up, and the degree of adjustment is decreased to a lower-level than in single-color printing at the time of color mixing through combinations of element colors to accomplish adjustment of said print data.

12. For use with a printing apparatus which deposits element color recording materials in dot matrices on recording media to produce printed output of color images containing a plurality of element colors according to print data, a software storage medium containing a print data adjusting program designed for adjusting said print data to compensate for color variation due to inconsistency in quantity of recording materials used, characterized in that a predetermined degree of adjustment, for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of each single color used due to an instrumental error of the printing apparatus, is decreased according to a mixed-color order of a reference color, which is determined to be

treated as a factor in color reproduction, at the time of color mixing to accomplish adjustment of said print data.

13. A software storage medium containing a print data adjusting program as claimed in claim 12, wherein a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of recording material used for each element color is stored, a mixed-color order for each dot is judged, the degree of adjustment is regulated to decrease to a level lower than in single-color printing when the mixed-color order becomes higher, and said print data is adjusted in accordance with the degree of adjustment thus regulated.

14. A software storage medium containing a print data adjusting program as claimed in claim 12, wherein a predetermined degree of adjustment for compensating for inconsistency in quantity of recording material used for each element color is set up, and the degree of adjustment is decreased to a level lower than in single-color printing at the time of color mixing through combinations of element colors to accomplish adjustment of said print data.